



FRS News is a
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FRS NEWS

FRS News is a free & irregular publication aimed at the listeners of the Free Radio Service Holland, an independent short wave free radio station. It usually comes out prior to or after a broadcast.

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INTRODUCTION Welcome along in the *Autumn 2006 FRS Newsletter* edition. Many of you who haven't received the previous re-styled editions (May & November 2004, April/ August 2005) will hopefully like the new look! BTW, if you are interested in catching previous editions, please send an e-mail and we'll provide you with the necessary details. Perhaps a good moment for a potted history: this small newsletter was first published under the name *FRS Newsletter* in January 1993. After 14 editions, the name was changed to *FRS News*. That was in 1997. The *FRS Newsletter* was continued for subscribers only and its content changed from covering *FRS-Holland* to ... (cont. page 2)

FRS-Holland: 25+1 Year on the Air by Peter V.

August 31st 2005 FRS-Holland was a milestone in FRS-Holland's history so far. That day FRS-Holland officially became 25 years old. 25 Years making FRS-

Holland one of the longest-serving SW Free Radio stations in Europe. Quoting FRS News #29 August 2005 main front page article-- more than a year ago: *"There is a lot of work to be done and we need a lot of spare time to do all the necessary preparations. Sometime in August or early September we will be announcing the definitive date (or dates) for the celebrations. Yes, there's a chance we will spread it over two separate Sundays. The help of YOU, the FRS-Holland listener, will be playing a vital part. The 25th Birthday transmission must become really something special. We invite you to participate."*

In the mean time no special celebration has been taking place! Despite all good intentions... In fact quite an unique situation knowing FRS-Holland has always been celebrating its birthday. In the first 9 years in August and as from October 1990 onwards in October (and November). It is of no use to explain all in detail. You, the

listener, won't be non the better for it. All that matters is whether there will be a big commemorative broadcasts sometime in (the near?) future. Looking back on 25 years +.... Telling the story of FRS-Holland. And the memories and stories of those who were involved either as presenter or listener. For me personally it still is a huge disappointment knowing we were

not able to do what we intended last year. That does not imply I have reconciled myself to the situation! I still intend to produce a comprehensive Birthday celebration including flashbacks, memories, extracts from the past 25 years and much, much more. Contributions we received so far (last year), will of course be included. Because they don't tell a story about us in 2004 or 2005...they tell a story about FRS in the 80s, 90s etc.

Something tells me a curse rests on "celebrating special events". Our proposed 20th anniversary in 2000 was sadly overshadowed by Joop ter Zee's death. What we intended couldn't be done and it ended in a 5 hour broadcast commemorating Joop ter Zee. Reminiscing it still gives me a good feeling. Certainly the most emotional and special broadcast we have ever done. It was something which HAD to be done. That same feeling comes up when looking back to 25 years of FRS-Holland SW broadcasts. It has to be done....

You are still invited to participate. No doubt your contribution will be included.

1. Send your personal FRS memories to our mailbox.

There're a few options:

- A. Tape it on a cassette / MiniDisc or burn it on a CD-R (as an .mp3 file) (1) * ;
- B. Send it as an .mp3 file to our E-mail address (2) * ;
- C. If none of the aforementioned possibilities can be accomplished, then there's a third possibility: Put your memories on a sheet of paper and we will read them out on air (1) ; 1: FRS-Holland, P.O.Box 2702, 6049 ZG Herten, the Netherlands. 2: e-mail address is <frs.holland@hccnet.nl>.

* Listeners should only record a dry message, no backing music please!! Each listener participating, will receive a surprise. Simply congratulate FRSH with its Birthday is of course also an option!! Apart from your memories, we are looking for catchy one-liners. What does FRS-Holland mean to you? Let us hear your very own thought(s) and do it in only one sentence!! Same options as mentioned above.

A recorded message is the most personal way to participate!

INFORMATION

E-mail:

<frs.holland@hccnet.nl>

Snailmail:

P.O.Box 2702

6049 ZG Herten

The Netherlands

The next edition will be out

Cont. Introduction page 1:

.....to emphasizing on Free Radio News. Where the FRS Newsletter ended, FRS News continued informing the listening audience with news from the Free Radio Service Holland. In the mean time the FRS Newsletter has been discontinued. After 7 years, the final edition # 39/40 was published December 2003. What is left is FRS News which will certainly continue as it is a very important means of com-

munication between FRS-Holland and you, the listener! Talking of communication or better: improving it... Since November 2004, we have been introducing two brandnew columns. Every new edition, we'll publish a collection of the letters/ E-mails we received via our Herten "2702" maildrop or via e-mail. We feel that's a good idea. Give us your opinion. So far response on the "new format" and new columns have been very encoura-

ging. Thanks to all of you who sent in (positive) comments. In addition in each issue we will go back in time with a flashback to a particular month/year including one of our broadcasts, SW news etc. This item is also included in future editions of FRS Magazine presented by Peter Verbruggen. Any ideas which might benefit FRS News are more than welcome, you can contact us via POBox 2702 or of course the easiest & fastest way: via E-mail. Don't

hesitate! Last but certainly not least a big apology to all of you who responded to our December 26th 2005 broadcast. Replies have now been sent but of course you have been waiting much too long! To make up a little, an extra photo's included in the envelope. We sincerely regret the long delay!

73s, Peter V.

FRS-HOLLAND NEWS

Once again we have to welcome a number of new listeners and in addition of course many faithful FRS friends. Thank to all of you for the mail we received regarding FRS-Holland's 9290 kHz December 26th 2005 broadcast.

FRS Activities

So far no official broadcasts have been taking place in 2006. The last broadcast was the one on Boxing day December 26th 2005. Pxs took to the air on 9290 kHz and instead of the usual way of posting an mp3 CD to Latvia, our programming was downloaded from our website by our Latvian contact. FRS website? See separate column! Pxs went to the air between 09.52- 12.00 CET and most of the listeners reported (very) good reception. It was a last minute decision to take to the air on Boxing day. So

hardly any promotion was done and: it was too late to have all FRS presenters involved. For that reason Peter Verbruggen produced a two hour December 1985 special including (radio) news from that month and extracts from Caroline, Monique and SW free radio stations. And of course the music from 20 years ago. All in all a nice X-Mas "bruch" for all listeners who tuned in to

9290. Between 11.48- 11.56 CET there was a technical problem: during those 7/8 minutes, the programme only contained one audio channel instead of two. And as it happens: during the complete transmission, the huge 9290 SW tx was only putting out one channel: the one which faded out during that brief period. As a result almost no audio was heard. Quite a number of listeners thought the tx developed a fault. Audio returned during the farewell tune. Sunday August 28th 2006 FRS carried out a brief test on 6210(at 10.20 UTC). Power was 40W and non-stop music, interspersed with jingles, was heard. FRS-Holland intends to be back on the airwaves before the end of 2006. In addition we will be carrying out some early morning tests to North America.

Do you have an E-mail address? Make sure forwarding it! You will be assured of receiving important updates/ the latest news on FRS-Holland.

FRS-Holland Jingle CD

Early 2000 we introduced the FRS Jingle CD. Ever since numerous CDs were sent to people all over Europe. We received very positive and enthusiastic response. The FRS Jingle CD covers digitalized stuff covering almost 20 years of FRS jingling divided into eight sections. It starts with the early 80s and ends with the millennium set produced in 1999. 226 jingles for only € 13.50 / £ 9.00/ USD 15.00. You can send the money cash to our maildrop: P.O.Box 2702, 6049 ZG in Herten, the Netherlands. A great asset to your jingle collection....the FRS-Holland Jingle CD. In case you are interested: we do offer a special Jingle CD info-sheet. Or: order the info via Email. Quick and easy.

DID YOU KNOW...

... that a photo from the Latvian Ilbroka transmitting site showing a photo of the giant 100 kW tx is a free FRS gift to all listeners responding on our Boxing Day Dec. 26th 2005 broadcast! In this way we hope to make up a little bit for the (too) long delay in replying to you. Apologies!!

MAILBOX 2702 MAILBOX 2702

By Peter Verbruggen

First of all thanks to everyone taking the trouble to drop us a line following our Boxing day 2005 broadcast. Time for some excerpts from the mail we received...

The first letter is coming from the southwestern part of Finland. "I've been listening to FSRH on 9290 kHz here in. The signal is very nice and the program-me is interesting (old Caroline and Monique stuff). Best wishes from Tero Toivonen, Lieto, Finland."

"Merry Christmas to all of you there in Holland. I am enjoying excellent reception on shortwave 9290 / SINPO 55555. Good Signal, great Modulation, and enjoying the music-thank you for a great program!" Txs Christopher Lewis, Norton, Shifnal, UK.

After quite a long time, Hans Joachim Brustmann from Leipzig, Germany writes: "Hallo Freunde, Hallo Peter, euer Programm am 26. Dezember 2005 konnte ich recht gut auf der Kurzwelle 9.290 KHz empfangen. Nach längerer Schreibpause möchte ich mich mal wieder melden und Euch damit mitteilen, dass ich weiter zu Euren aktiven Hörern zähle. Ich bin nur etwas schreibfaul geworden. Ich höre Euch mit dem PC_Radio "TEN_TEC 320D" und der Dream Software AM_Modus), womit ich die elektromagnetischen Störungen meines Hauses eindämmen kann. Euer Programm ist wie immer einfach Klasse !!!!! Music fuer meine Ohren."

Good to know you are still tuning in Hans_Joachim and please remember: your mail is our reward !

Another faithful FRS listener is Patrick Travers from Sheffield in the UK. "I listened to all the transmission this morning on 9290 kHz from tune in at 08.53 GMT until sign off at approx 11.00 GMT, I noticed that there was a problem with the audio from Latvia at around 10.50GMT in the middle of a song by The Supremes, but everything was back to normal by 10.56GMT. I laughed at your Swedish listener who wrote "he was listening to FRS on a short wave radio". I enjoyed listening to the Radio Caroline/Monique snippets and the delve in to the past of FRS Holland recordings and mentioning pirates from 1985. I was using a JRC NRD 525 and a 5 metre piece of wire for the antenna! (I still haven't repaired the antenna!)." We stay in the UK and travel to an urban location some 18 Miles South West of London near Heathrow. "What a nice surprise and delighted to hear FRS-Holland was back on the air today with a special two hour Christmas Special on Boxing Day December 26th which I was able to hear slightly after the scheduled time of 08.53 through to 11.00 UTC. I was delighted that you were able to feature a flashing back show of

some 20 years to December 1985. When you feature news from that month, some of the hits and extracts from Radio Caroline on 558/963 kHz, Radio Monique on 963 kHz which I sure

remember. However I recall at that time I was also listening to my all time favourite offshore station being Laser 558 but if Caroline was on 558 kHz then Laser could not have been on although they made a failed attempt on 576 kHz but that was never the same as the old 558 kHz frequency. I shall be looking forward to hearing your Twenty Fifth Anniversary programme in the New Year when you will have my full attention. I have been a free radio listener since around 1977 when there were many stations on the air both on forty eight and forty one meters. Thanks for a Great Boxing Day morning transmission of the Free Radio Service Holland." Txs Nicholas Sharpe and 'the 25th Anniversary Story' is explained in the FRS News section.

"Hallo, dear OP's and Peter Verbruggen" writes Klaus Führlich from the East of Germany, around 20 kilometres from Dresden. "I was very glad to hear your station today. I was surprised about the program today, because I heard no publications before. I very much hope my report is useful for you to control the reception

I heard no publications before. Thank you very much and best wishes."

Apart from our European listeners, we also received reports from outside Europe. The first one is from good old Andrew Yoder, USA. "Hello Peter, thanks for the note. Just an FYI that I heard it at my inlaw's house from 0904_0939+ this morning. Hope it was heard well by everyone in Europe. Have a great Boxing day!"

Even further away is John Durham's QTH. "Just a short note to let you know I heard you broadcast via Latvia last night 26th December. Reception was poor to just fair here in Tauranga. New Zealand. This is the first time I have heard your station and I enjoyed what I listened to." Txs John and enjoy your QSL !

"I heard FRS at 0918 UTC on 26th December with a SINPO of 45343 - a very good signal here. Regards from Wayne Bastow, Wyoming, NSW, Australia."

The on air Mailbox 2702 equivalent is the International Listeners' Letter Show.

Free Radio Service Holland
International music radio on 41/45 MHz

To: _____
Name: _____
Date: _____
Frequency: _____
Signal: _____
Power: _____
Aerial: _____

THANKS FOR YOUR RECEPTION REPORT AND KEEP LISTENING!

Cont. Page 3:

From Bernburg, former GDR, writes Fritz-Walter Adam. His receiver is a Grundig-satellite 700. "Habe mal in meinem QSL-Karten gewühlt und nach der erste Bestätigung euer Station gesucht. Am ersten Mal habe ich euch am 24. Mai 1981 auf der Frequenz 7315 empfangen."

The village of Tönisvorst is on the other side of Germany and it's the hometown of Ralph Peters. "Today I have the great pleasure of sending you a RR after a longer period of non writing. As usual it was an interesting show, keep on doing such great free radio. I'm 37 years old and one of my hobbies is listening to radio stations all over the world."

"My name is Aleksandr. I am 35 years old, I live in South Ukraine near Azov Sea. For over 10 years I have been interested in DXing. Great to tune in to FRS-Holland." Txs Aleksandr, hopefully we manage to return on 9290 one day!

David Turnick lives in Sinking Spring, PA, USA. "It is with great pleasure that I write to tell that I have heard your radio station while I was travelling on business to Amsterdam. When I travel I always take my portable SW receiver. I heard you May 1st on 9290. Signal strenght was good with no interference and fading. I Am 47 years old, married, have 3 children. I work for IBM Corporation as a Sales Operations Manager. I have been a SW listener for 30 years. My portable is a Sony ICF-2010, at home I have a NRD-545." Thanks David for an interesting letter. Hopefully one day you will catch us from the USA?!

"Getting up late this morning it was a real surprise to hear you on air on 9290. Don't know when I heard you the last time, but it was long ago. So with a huge mug of coffee this was a real fine time. I like this style of radio, the music and of course all the different radio memories. I started listening to SW in the 60s. On one hand I can understand the satellite and FM generation with its dislike of low quality media, on the other hand I can't imagine listening to music from 'the good old times' without some hiss and fading. This inevitably belongs to me, thus I am always thankful that there are people like you, who keep the old style alive." This letter came from Rainer Graf in Nürtingen, Germany. Thanks Rainer for your letter, we feel the same way...

"Yes, I am still alive" writes Thorsten Brandenburg from Munich. "I was very sad I could not receive your Birthday programme in October." Thorsten, you still have the chance to hear that special broadcast!

Date: October 20th 1996
Time: 10.00- 15.45 CET
Broadcast #122,
FRS-Holland's 16th Anniversary
Programme Schedule:
 09.54 Opening
 10.02 Breakfast Birthday Show
 Peter Verbruggen
 11.03 Stefan Kramer Show (Ger)
 12.00 FRS Goes DX- Peter V.
 13.00 Joop ter Zee Show
 14.00 Tony Mitchell's Party
 15.00 Close Down
 Preparations for this BC started mid August. The BC took place from a brandnew location. Saturday evening pxs started via RFL in the UK on 6275//3945. FRS is also to be heard during nighttime via own equipment (00.00-02.15) on 6958 & 15046 kHz (19 metres)! It was planned to continue till 05.00 but technical problems prevented us from doing so. Early Sunday morning Peter V. went to the new location in the pouring rain. Very bad weather! After a 90 minute drive he arrives - at 08.30 CET and starts erecting the 48 mb dipole antenna. Bad luck.. Till a few

minutes to 10, Peter is busy. It is still raining cats and dogs and the ground is very swampy. At 10.15, some 20 minutes too late, *Peace* from Peter (nót Verbruggen) is to be heard on 6243 kHz. Several calls from the location reassured that a loud signal was radiated across Europe. Even in Lithuania! BTW, usually Peter V. was always accompanied by tx engineer Bobby Speed but not this Sunday... Result was 70 letters from no less than 15 countries including Austria (6275), Italia, Lithuania, Latvia, Austria, Germany, France, UK, the Netherlands, Denmark, Hungaria, Sweden, Denmark, Belarus and Spain (6275). A day to remember!

FRS Sales Productions

Order our booklet with hundreds of hours of recordings from Sea to Satellite. Send 2 IRCs or two Euro / two US dollar to the Herten maildrop. FRS Sales Productions offers SW Free Radio, Offshore Radio, satellite, Documentaries, Jingles, Landbased pirate radio but also legal stations from all over the world. We offer **ATTRACTIVE**

DID YOU KNOW...

...that the *FRS Listenersclub* was founded in June 1982? Main purpose was to strengthen the bond station-listener. FRS Goes DX Magazine was the perfect means to fulfil this goal. Now, more than 13 years later, FRS Goes DX has developed into an informative, good-looking and bi-monthly radio magazine covering a wide range of subjects primarily linked with free radio. That same year the leading popular Dutch *Free Radio Radio Magazine*, better known as FRM, produced a comprehensive two-volume story about FRS-Holland. Coincident or not : shortly after part 2 was out, FRSH was raided!

1985 FRS-Holland was the first-ever SW pirate station producing a *video*. Copies were sold all over Europe. The video showed the final FRS programmer recordings in FRS'very first radio studio. A second and definitive FRS video will be produced sometime in future. It will cover all aspects related to FRS-Holland in particular and SW free radio in general.

The first FRS *T-shirt* must be a collector's item by now. The promo for that piece of cotton was one of the most weird and fast-moving promos ever produced by the people behind the station. Yes, you can still wear that T-shirt, even in the church....